

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District

other names/site number 009-264-11000

2. Location

street & number Roughly bounded by Franklin, Walnut, Water and Mulberry Streets N/A not for publication

city or town Hartford City N/A vicinity

state Indiana code IN county Blackford - 009 zip code 47348

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this x nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property x meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide x locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<u> </u> entered in the National Register	_____	_____
<u> </u> See continuation sheet.		
<u> </u> determined eligible for the	_____	_____
National Register		
<u> </u> See continuation sheet.		
<u> </u> determined not eligible for the	_____	_____
National Register		
<u> </u> removed from the National	_____	_____
Register		
<u> </u> other (explain): _____	_____	_____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
45	11	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
1	8	objects
46	19	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter N/A if property not part of multiple property listing)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

2

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

- Cat: COMMERCE/TRADE Sub: specialty store
- Sub: restaurant
- COMMERCE/TRADE department store
 - GOVERNMENT courthouse
 - GOVERNMENT post office
 - GOVERNMENT correctional facility
 - monument/marker
 - SOCIAL meeting hall
 - RELIGION religious facility
 - RECREATION/CULTURE monument/marker
 - DOMESTIC hotel

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

- Cat: COMMERCE/TRADE
- GOVERNMENT courthouse
 - GOVERNMENT post office
 - RELIGION religious facility
 - RECREATION/CULTURE
 - DOMESTIC single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

- LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate
- LATE VICTORIAN: Romanesque
- LATE VICTORIAN: Renaissance
- MODERN MOVEMENT: Art Deco

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation BRICK, STONE: Limestone
- walls BRICK, CONCRETE
- roof ASPHALT
- other METAL: cast iron

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheets.

8. Function or Use

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
above)
- C** a birthplace or a grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
See continuation sheets.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

- Architecture
- Commerce
- Politics/Government
- Social History

Period of Significance

1879 - 1947

Significant Dates

Significant Person(s) (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

LaBelle, Arthur; French, Burt; Loney, P.J.

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

_____ Name of Repository
____ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record Blackford Historical Museum and Cecil Beeson Library

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property _____ 24 _____

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	_____	_____	_____	3	_____	_____	_____
	zone	Easting	Northing	zone	Easting	Northing	
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____	_____

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kristi Hamilton – Graduate Assistant; Kent Abraham – Graduate Assistant; Susan Lankford – Project Coordinator

organization Center for Historic Preservation, Ball State University; Indiana Main Street Assistance Project

date October 10, 2005

street & number 650 West Minnetrista Boulevard telephone 765-213-3540, ext. 228

city or town Muncie state IN zip code 47303

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white** photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 7 Page 1 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

Narrative Description

The Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District is located in Hartford City in Blackford County, Indiana. The only other sizeable city within the county is Montpelier, which is located twelve miles to the northeast. A majority of the land within the county is used for agricultural purposes. State Roads 3 and 26 intersect in Hartford City, and State Road 26 becomes Washington Street through downtown. Hartford City serves as the county seat and has a population of approximately 6,700 people.

The proposed district comprises the significant portions of Hartford City's historic commercial district. Its boundaries encompass the four blocks around the Blackford County Courthouse and extend approximately one block in all directions to include outer lying resources. There are fifty-six buildings within the proposed district, and of those forty-five are contributing and eleven are non-contributing. There are no sites or structures. The district encompasses a total of nine objects, of which one is contributing. All of the objects are commemorative memorials located on the courthouse lawn. Two resources, the Blackford County Courthouse and the First Presbyterian Church, were previously listed individually on the National Register of Historic Places.

The focus of the district is the Blackford County Courthouse, which is surrounded by commercial and public buildings in the layout of a Block Square. The streets run north-south and east-west with intersections at the four corners of the courthouse square. The streetscape materials include modern concrete sidewalks and asphalt roads. Most of the buildings are brick or stone and are of uniform setback. Very few trees, all of which are small and do not contribute to the district's historic integrity, are on the courthouse square. Modern street lamps are located throughout the district, along with historic reproduction light fixtures on the sidewalks.

During the 1880s, Hartford City's public square was a mix of commercial, public, and a few residential buildings. Like other budding cities during that period of time, many buildings were constructed of timber frames. These were extremely vulnerable to fire. The threat of this tragedy combined with the prosperity of the Gas Boom in East Central Indiana and subsequent growth led to more solid and fire-proof construction. The earliest extant contributing building in the district is the Blackford County Jail, built in 1879 and located at 120 East Main Street. The earliest extant commercial building that contributes to the historic character of the district is the Ervin Building, built in the Queen Anne style around 1890. The Gas Boom, which lasted in Hartford City for approximately fifteen years, led to the construction of a number of buildings, many of which remain today.

The district is rich in its variety of architectural styles. The most prominent styles include Commercial Italianate, Renaissance Revival, Romanesque Revival, and Queen Anne. Examples of Commercial Italianate include the W.H. Gable Block and the Bank Block. Renaissance Revival buildings include the Rosenbush Building and the Briscoe Building. Another popular style was Romanesque Revival, which is obvious in the Blackford County Courthouse, Weiler's Building, and the Hotel Ingram. Finally, the Art Deco style was applied to the Scheidler Theatre.

When the number of surviving resources is taken into consideration, along with their overall condition, it is apparent that the district retains a great deal of its historic character. As with many public squares of its era, a

number of changes over the past fifty years occurred in Hartford City's downtown core. Despite these changes,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 7 Page 2 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

the fact that twenty-five buildings contribute to the proposed district implies that an overwhelming sense of historic integrity remains. The group of noncontributing buildings includes both historic buildings which have been extensively altered and buildings of recent construction.

Descriptions of pivotal contributing and non-contributing buildings and objects follow. The selection of contributing buildings that are described embodies the historic integrity of the area in the strongest sense.

Knights of Pythias Building/ Tyner Building – Contributing (210-204 West Main Street) (Photo 3)

This three-story building, designed by A.W. Maxwell and constructed c. 1900, has a mixture of Romanesque, Classical, and Queen Anne elements. The symmetrical brick and limestone building is divided into four storefronts by painted rusticated limestone pilasters. The westernmost aluminum storefront has a central recessed aluminum entry door and single-light aluminum transom with an awning above. The west-central aluminum storefront has a central recessed entry and a transom of glass blocks. The east-central and easternmost aluminum storefronts each have central recessed entrances and transoms covered with wooden boards. The cast-iron lintel still runs across all four storefronts. Four original cast-iron bays are found on the second story, and the glass was removed from all but the westernmost bay. The frames of the bays, which are divided by brick pilasters, remain. The openings in the building in the two central and easternmost bays have been filled in with modern vinyl double-hung windows. The westernmost bay has vertical corrugated metal siding between the frames of the bay, and a small one-over-one double-hung vinyl window is located in the central portion of the bay. A belt course of limestone separates the second and third stories. The third story has eight windows arranged in pairs evenly across the facade. The brick pilasters from the second story extend into the third story to divide the paired windows. The outer pairs have arched transoms above, while the two inner pairs have rectangular transoms above. Each set of paired windows with arched transoms is capped with decorative brick corbelling with a brick and limestone pediment above, which is then topped by additional brick corbelling. Each set of paired windows with transoms is crowned with brick corbelling. Above this, brick pilasters separate the upper-most central section of the facade into two panels. The westernmost panel features an entablature that reads “K of P”, while the words “W.H. Tyner” appear in the eastern panel. Brick corbelling appears above each panel. Brick and limestone coping extends across the entire length of the facade. Five decorative limestone elements resembling flames, possibly commemorating the Gas Boom, are spaced evenly along the coping.

W.H. Gable Block – Contributing (122-118 West Main Street) (Photo 4)

The facade of this two-story brick Commercial Italianate building, constructed in 1891, is accented by five brick pilasters that divide it into three storefronts and one street-level entrance to the second floor. The storefronts vary greatly in appearance. The westernmost three-bay storefront features a kickplate covered by vertical vinyl siding, a recessed central entrance with a modern aluminum door and transom flanked by large modern aluminum display windows, and a large signboard of vertical vinyl siding over the storefront windows. The central three-bay storefront features a kickplate covered with tan brick veneer, large modern aluminum display windows in the western and central bays, a modern aluminum door and transom in the eastern bay, and an awning with vertical wood siding and a metal roof over the storefront. Columns with a tan brick veneer flank the central storefront. The easternmost three-bay storefront features a kickplate covered by metal tiles, a recessed central entrance with a modern aluminum door and transom flanked by large modern aluminum display

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 7 Page 3 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

windows, and a large signboard of metal tiles over the storefront windows. The street-level entrance to the second floor between the central and easternmost storefront features a two-light paneled door with a single-light paneled sidelight. The cast-iron lintel between the first and second stories remains exposed and has been painted white. A belt course of brick runs between the second floor window sills and storefront transoms. Above this, a rock-faced limestone belt course extends the length of the façade, forming continuous window sills. Brick pilasters divide the windows on the second story. These pilasters appear (from east to west) on the east edge of the building, on the east edge of the third window, on the west edge of the third window, between the fifth and sixth window, and on the west edge of the building. The second story has eight narrow windows covered with wood paneling. Above each window is a three-course segmental arch composed of alternating bricks and small limestone blocks in the first two courses and a thin row of limestone blocks in the top course. Two limestone belt courses are located above the windows, followed by brick corbelling, and finally two more limestone courses. A sheet metal cornice with Italianate brackets extends across the main facade and wraps around to the east facade. "W.H. Gable 1891" appears in the center of the cornice.

Sage Building – Contributing (114 West Main Street) (Fourth building from the right, Photo 2)

The interior of this two-story brick building now opens into the interior of 112 West Main Street. Therefore, the modern aluminum storefront lacks an entrance. A cloth awning appears over the aluminum display windows. Metal sheeting covers the storefront lintel. The second story features two large openings with cast concrete sills and metal lintels. Historical photographs show that the openings were once filled by three-sided bays. However, the bays have been removed and fixed wood shutters now fill the spaces. Brick pilasters extending from the storefront lintel to the cornice appear in the center and at the east and west edges of the second story. The cornice features brick corbelling. The building is capped by cast concrete coping. The building continues the streetscape and is therefore contributing.

Commercial Building – Contributing (112 West Main Street) (Photo 5)

This three-story brick building was constructed in the style of Romanesque Revival. The c.1960 three-bay storefront consists of large aluminum display windows with a small cloth awning above. The central recessed entry with paired modern glass and aluminum doors and two-light narrow sidelights is topped by a single pane transom. The lintel is covered by the same metal sheeting treatment that covers the lintel of the Sage Block, located immediately to the west. Directly east of the storefront, a single-light glazed wood door with a single-light transom leads to the second floor. A brick column with a concrete base appears at the east edge of the first floor. The second story has four rectangular windows that are covered with fixed wood shutters. Between each window is a decorative brick corbel topped with a limestone capital that is part of the continuing band of limestone across the top of the second story windows. Between the second and third stories, nineteen decorative terra cotta squares are evenly spaced across the facade within a band of brick. The four windows of the third story are located directly above those of the second story and are also covered by fixed, louvered shutters. The decorative brick work between the windows resembles pilasters, each of which is topped by a limestone capital. Dark orange Romanesque arches enframe terra cotta panels above each third floor window. The brick arches spring from impost blocks consisting of limestone and orange brick. The third story is enframed by colossal brick pilasters to the east and west. The capitals are part of an entablature composed of terra cotta courses below, a brick frieze at center, and projecting cornice with dentils at top. Below the frieze at center are three decorative projections consisting of rectangular terra cotta moldings supported by buff brick

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 7 Page 4 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

corbels.

Rosenbush Building- Contributing (110 West Main Street) (Photo 6)

This two-story Renaissance Revival building was constructed c. 1890 with brick and limestone. The early twentieth century storefront features stucco-clad kickplates, large wooden display windows, and a central recessed entry with a single-light wooden panel door, single-light wooden sidelights, and single-light wooden transom. The entire storefront is topped by a decorative stucco-clad arch supported by thin wood colonettes. A modern glass and aluminum entrance leading to the second story is located to the east of the main entrance. Original brick pilasters with limestone capitals based on the Ionic order and limestone bases frame the main entrance, which is made of glass, metal, and a stucco-like material. A decorative black cast-iron cornice protrudes above the limestone lintel above the first story. The second story has three one-over-one wood double-hung windows. The central window is slightly wider than the flanking windows. The transoms above the windows have been covered with wood paneling. Between the windows are colossal brick pilasters with limestone capitals and bases matching those at street level. Flanking each of the windows are smaller pilasters with stone capitals. Square openings with terra cotta star-like pattern insets within the brick appear above the outermost windows. A fixed, twenty-four pane historic wood window appears above the second story's central window. The colossal pilasters support a three-band Ionic frieze of limestone. A limestone tablet reading "Rosenbush" is centrally located below a course of limestone dentils, above which is a projecting cornice of heavy limestone modillions, dentils, and a pediment with a floral motif in its center. The building is topped by a parapet of brick corbelling, brick/limestone coping, and brick pilaster-like elements. With the exception of the c. 1920s storefront, this building retains a great deal of its original character.

Weiler's Building – Contributing (104 West Main Street) (Photo 7)

This monumental three-story brick building was constructed in the Romanesque Revival style and was completed in 1896, according to the engraving at the top of the building. The first story was originally continuous plate glass. The current c.1960 storefront has kickplates of small multi-colored tiles, large aluminum display windows, and two centrally located recessed entrances with glass and aluminum doors and transoms. The display window just east of the easternmost entrance is covered by a painted wooden board. The length of the storefronts is covered by a low metal awning from the same period. Vertical aluminum corrugated panels cover the columns that flank the entrances, the columns located at either edge of the first floor, and the area between the awning and the second story. The second story has five pairs of windows, all of which have been covered with wood. Alternating courses of brick and rock-faced limestone adorn the second story between each window. The third story also has five pairs of windows, and all but one have been covered with wood, with the remaining window filled in with brick. The three central pairs are divided by brick pilasters with simple limestone bases and capitals. These windows have arched transoms. Above the three pairs of central third-story window are Romanesque arches consisting of courses of brick voisoirs and resting on limestone impost blocks between the windows. The two outermost pairs of windows have rectangular transoms with segmental limestone arches. Small terra cotta rosettes decorate the uppermost portion of the building above the windows, along with squares of terra cotta faces of men. The Weiler's name on a limestone tablet is located at the center of a brick frieze above the third story pilasters. There are pairs of oculus holes alternating with square terra cotta panels consisting of decorative floral patterns. Above the frieze is a brick corbel table that forms the cornice. Above the central portion of the corbelling is a brick parapet consisting of a

central panel surmounted

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 7 Page 5 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

by a terra cotta pediment elaborately detailed with a lion's head and floral patterns. Brick arcades are found on either side of the brick parapet.

Blackford County Jail – Contributing (120 East Main Street) (Photo 8)

This building is an outstanding example of the Italianate style. The painted brick building, constructed in 1879, has a high rock-faced limestone foundation. The basement windows retain their original appearance from the building's days as the county jail, as they are covered with metal bars on the exterior. Tall and narrow one-over-one wood double-hung windows with smooth limestone sills are found on each elevation, and above each window and door is a decorative wood pediment. The hipped roof is covered in asphalt, and below it is a projecting wooden box cornice supported by heavy brackets characteristic of the Italianate style. The north facade has the primary entrance located in a central pavilion. Concrete steps lead to the main entrance that features a tall, narrow doorway with a modern metal and glass door. At the top of the pavilion is a pediment-like gable supported by brackets. The number "1879" is found just below the pediment. Likewise, concrete steps lead to the entrance on the west façade that contains an unglazed metal door. The rear of the building has a one-story brick addition with a high rock-faced limestone foundation. Two symmetrically placed square window openings with smooth limestone sills and lintels are found on the west elevation. A projecting wooden box cornice that mimics the cornice of the main house is supported by small brackets of the Italianate style.

Campbell Building – Contributing (211-207 West Washington Street) (Photo 11)

This two-story commercial brick building constructed in 1901 exhibits Renaissance Revival characteristics. Three largely original storefronts occupy the street level and evenly divide the first story into thirds. In each of the three entrances, a wood door is recessed from the street, and large plate-glass store windows occupy the rest of the space. Brick pilasters with decorative cast-iron wreath capitals separate each storefront. Transoms of prism glass remain uncovered above the storefronts, which still display their original cast-iron lintels. The second story has nine vertical windows that are one-over-one, double-hung, and made of wood. They are arranged in groups of three, with the central three being smaller and having rectangular transoms above. The transom above the center window in the central trio has been covered with wood paneling. The Renaissance Revival features of the facade are concentrated in a central pavilion that projects slightly from the facade. On the second story of the pavilion, four narrow brick pilasters with Ionic stone capitals run between the windows and support a limestone Ionic frieze and cornice with dentils that runs across the entire facade. Above this cornice in the central pavilion is a small attic story composed again of four pilasters supporting a classical entablature, with three arched openings in between. Crowning the pavilion is a large gable with limestone coping and stone tablet in the tympanum bearing the words "1901 Campbell." On either side of the gable, there is a brick corbel table fronting a parapet wall. Four limestone finials of varying height are found along the top of the parapet.

Ervin Building – Contributing (205-201 West Washington Street) (Photos 12 and 13)

This two-story brick commercial building, constructed c. 1890 with Queen Anne elements, incorporates a variety of materials into its facade on West Washington Street. The division of the facade into two storefronts continues the original subdivision, although the current store windows date to about the 1960s. Each storefront has concrete kickplates, large aluminum display windows, and a recessed entrance. The wooden storefront

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 7 Page 6 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

entrance single-light doors, although with their corresponding wooden single-light transoms and sidelights, appear to be original to the building's construction. A recessed entrance to the second floor with a single-light wooden door and transom is located to the west of the western storefront. A brick column with a limestone base and limestone capital stands on the building's western edge. A prism glass transom runs along the entire length of the building, with "Ervin" in stained glass featured in the center. Three original wooden projecting bay windows are found on the second story of the façade. The eastern-most bay features a central one-over-one double-hung window flanked by narrow one-over-one double-hung windows, while the other two bays feature central fixed two-over-two windows flanked by one-over-one double-hung windows. The bays feature wooden coffer-like panels below and above the windows, cornice molding at the crown, and metal roofs. Limestone belt courses extend across the building at the bottom and top of the windows. Limestone arches with decorative wood insets in a sunburst pattern are found above the pairs of windows between the projecting bays. The original cornice appears to have been damaged and removed in the past and repaired with concrete. Based on an historic photograph dating from 1910, the facade appears to have incurred few alterations throughout the years, and most of the original elements remain.

Kirshbaum Building – Contributing (123 West Washington Street) (Photo 14)

This three-story brick and limestone Romanesque Revival building, constructed in 1893, occupies the southeast corner of Washington and High Streets. The name, "First National Bank", the building's original occupant, is engraved in limestone above a three-part limestone course. The composition of the facade is organized into three zones, one for each story. The ground level and third story treatment echo each other. In both, there are Romanesque arches above the windows and ground floor entry composed of alternating smooth and rock-faced stone voisoirs. Above the ground level arches is a stone frieze consisting of three smooth courses. The second story has a pair of rectangular two-over-two fixed windows. Both below and above the second story windows is a limestone belt. A large clock hangs from the corner of the second story. Beneath each window is a limestone course. A cornice of brick corbelling and limestone coping adorns the top of the building. Centrally located atop the cornice rests a limestone parapet with the engraving "1893 Kirshbaum." On both ends of the cornice, a limestone finial with a block base cap off the corner piers, which are made of alternating courses of brick and rusticated limestone and extend the entire height of the building.

Briscoe Building – Contributing (121-113 West Washington Street) (Photo 15)

This two-story Romanesque Revival building was constructed of brick in 1893. Three colors of brick are found across the facade, visually dividing the building into three vertical sections. The easternmost section features a single storefront with modern aluminum display windows in the east end and a recessed entry with an aluminum and glass door and transom at the west end. Wood shingles cover the kickplate and the columns that flank the storefront. Wooden paneling covers the storefront transoms. The original cast iron storefront lintel is still intact. The central section features a single storefront with modern aluminum display windows in the west end and a recessed entry with an aluminum and glass door and transom at the east end. Jalousie windows are located in the storefront transoms. Vertical corrugated metal siding covers the columns that flank the storefront. The original cast iron storefront lintel is still intact. The westernmost section features two storefronts, an entrance that leads to the second floor, and a 1970s wood shingle canopy covering the first floor. The western storefront of this section has modern aluminum display windows and a central recessed entry with an aluminum and glass door and single-light transom. A solid metal door leading to the second floor

is located between the
NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 7 Page 7 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

western and eastern storefronts. The eastern storefront of this section has modern aluminum display windows, a central column covered with vertical wood paneling, and a central recessed entry with two aluminum and glass doors with single-light transoms. A rock-faced limestone course is found beneath the second story windows. The second story originally had seventeen vertical windows, which contributed to the once-balanced appearance of the building. The ten windows on the westernmost portion of the building have been covered with fixed wood shutters. Of the four windows to the east of those, two have been bricked over and two remain open and have been altered by the installation of modern windows. The top halves of the windows in the building's easternmost section have been covered with fixed wood shutters, and windows on the lower half are double-hung vinyl windows. A smooth limestone course runs between the windows near the middle of each opening. The prism glass transoms above each window have been covered from the inside, and rock-faced limestone courses run below and above the transoms. Small squares of limestone are found directly beneath the brick corbelling of the cornice. In the center of the building, a large limestone rectangle is found beneath a triangular limestone pediment. The pediment has a rock-faced limestone starburst pattern, and it reads, "18 Briscoe 93." The pediment is framed with limestone finials on block bases. A pyramidal limestone finial atop a block rests at either end of the facade.

Griffin Building – Contributing (106 East Washington Street) (Photo 16)

This two-story brick building, constructed in the 1890s, was built with Romanesque Revival details. The storefront has brick kickplates, plate glass aluminum storefront windows, and a central recessed entry with an unglazed metal door. The storefront is covered with a modern awning with an aluminum frame covered with vinyl. Brick pilasters with limestone capitals flank the storefront, and a smooth limestone belt is found above the awning. The second story has three evenly spaced vinyl one-over-one double-hung windows with limestone sills and lintels. Four larger brick pilasters capped with decorative limestone capitals separate the windows, while smaller brick pilasters with decorative limestone capitals flank each second-story window. Decorative limestone molding and brick corbelling appear above the smaller pilasters and between the larger pilasters. In the uppermost portion of the façade, three openings are covered with wood panels. Brick pilasters appear to the west of the westernmost opening and to the east of the easternmost opening. Above these openings, limestone moldings edge the top and bottom of a line of brick corbelling that spans the façade. The building is capped by a parapet that features brick corbelling, limestone molding, limestone copping. The limestone entablature within the brick parapet cornice reads "Griffin." Limestone blocks rest on the top of the parapet, in line with the first-story pilasters.

Scheidler Theater – Contributing (122 East Washington Street) (Photos 17 and 18)

This limestone block building, finished in 1947 according to the cornerstone, adds a more recent style to the proposed district, that of Art Deco. An original highly-polished marble veneer covers the base of the storefront and the west first-floor corner of the building. The recessed entrance features tinted plate glass and metal doors and transoms, probably installed in the 1960s. Tinted plate glass and metal display windows flank the recessed entrance. A replacement metal and glass display window occupies the east end of the first floor, while the theater's original glass display case is still present on the west corner of the building. A vinyl marquee-like awning extends over the storefront, displaying the names of the building's current tenants. The upper levels of the front façade lack openings. On the east corner, stylized fluted limestone patterns extend

from the sidewalk past the top of the building. On the west corner, similar patterns extend from the top of the first floor to

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 7 Page 8 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

the top of the building. These asymmetrical original elements add strong vertical emphasis to the façade. The eastern vertical projection features a recessed square panel above the display window and two metal "I" decorations.

Bank Block, southern portion – Contributing (100 North Jefferson Street) (Photos 19 and 21)

This two-story brick Commercial Italianate building was constructed in the 1880s, based on historical photographs. Located on the northeast corner of Jefferson and Washington Streets, it was once part of the Bank Block, which originally occupied the entire southwest portion of the block immediately east of the courthouse, including 102-104 North Jefferson Street. However, historical photographs show that by the 1960s, the front façade of 102-104 North Jefferson Street was heavily remodeled, visually separating the Bank Block. Based on historical photographs, it appears that the original storefront of 100 North Jefferson Street has been re-configured, probably in the 1970s. The west (main) façade's centrally-located entrance is significantly recessed. (Although historical photographs show that the original storefront had a central entrance, it is not known why the remodeled entrance is recessed.) The recessed area is partially surrounded by a low brick wall with concrete coping. The storefront is clad in diagonally-oriented wood veneer, possibly added in the 1970s. Brick veneer columns from the same period mark the corner and northern edge of the storefront. The original entrance to the second floor, featuring a wood panel door with a six-light transom, is located to the north of the storefront. Despite the remodeling, elements of the original storefront may still be intact. Although destructive visual analysis for this nomination was not conducted, it is possible that the original storefront columns are still intact beneath the brick cladding, as the columns appear to be in the same location and of the same scale as the original columns, based on historical photographs. Above the storefront, corrugated metal and wood eaves cover the original cast-iron lintel. Four original one-over-one double-hung wood windows with limestone sills are spaced evenly across the second story. Metal arched moldings with decorative wooden scrollwork on the hoods adorns the top of each the window. The cornice is a simple Italianate design, consisting of a projecting box gutter supported by occasional brackets. The storefront has been greatly altered, but the second story and cornice retain their original appearance. The south elevation of the building (Washington Street) has three street level entrances near the east end. Near the corner of the storefront, steps descend from street level to a basement entrance. Five original, square, fixed-pane windows are unevenly spaced across the first story of the south elevation. The three westernmost windows have simple decorative hoods above them, while the other two windows remain unadorned. On the second story, sixteen original one-over-one double hung wood windows with limestone sills are spaced evenly across the facade, and they are identical to the second story windows of the west facade. Each window has a cast-iron/pressed metal arched hood with decorative scrollwork, but they are simpler in appearance than the hoods on the west facade.

Commercial Building (Originally the northern portion of the Bank Block) – Contributing (102-104 North Jefferson Street) (Second building from the right, Photo 19)

Historical photographs show that this two-story brick building was constructed in the 1880s in the Commercial Italianate style as part of the Bank Block, together with 100 North Jefferson. Originally, an elaborate parapet bearing the words "Bank Block" extended across the 102-104 North Jefferson Street portion of the building. At

some point, definitely by the 1960s, it appears that some or all of the building's Commercial Italianate features were removed and the current concrete block veneer was installed, visually separating it from the remainder of the Bank Block. Today, the storefront on the front façade is separated into two halves. Columns covered with a

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 7 Page 9 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

vener of cast concrete blocks appear between the two halves and at either end of the storefront. The building's original brick column and a portion of a limestone capital is visible behind the concrete block veneer on the northernmost column. The northern half of the storefront features a recessed entry with metal and glass display windows, double entry doors and transoms. The southern half features four tall metal and glass display windows. A neon sign reading "Hartford Hardware" on a slightly projecting horizontal metal base and two back-lit plastic signs appear above the storefront. Six evenly spaced one-over-one wooden windows with exterior screens span the second floor. It is possible that these windows are original, as they are in the same location and are of the same scale as the original windows, as seen in historical photographs. The second floor lacks any other openings or decoration, except for the slight stepped parapet with concrete coping. Despite its alterations, 102-104 North Jefferson contributes to the district.

Commercial Building – Non-Contributing (106 North Jefferson Street) (Third building from the right, Photo 19)

This two-story brick building was constructed c.1890 in the Commercial Italianate style, according to historical photographs. The building's front facade originally featured a cast iron storefront, three evenly-spaced one-over-one windows with decorative hoods on the second story, and an Italianate cornice. However, by the 1960s, these elements were removed or covered. Sometime after the 1970s, the front façade was remodeled again to its current appearance. Today, the storefront has a recessed entrance lined with tiles (possibly Vitrolite or a similar material), large aluminum and glass display windows at the north end, double aluminum and glass entrance doors at the south end, and two small aluminum display windows in the south wall that leads to the entrance. A slight aluminum projection covers the storefront. The second story is covered in stucco veneer. Applied wooden slats give the appearance of half-timbering. At the top of the building, a small portion of a brick wall with concrete coping rises above the stucco veneer. Although this may be a portion of the building's original façade, the original Italianate cornice has been removed.

Commercial Building – Non-Contributing (110-112 North Jefferson Street) (Fifth building from the right, Photo 19 and third building from the left, Photo 20)

This three-story brick building was constructed in the late-nineteenth century in the Romanesque Revival style, according to historical photographs. The building's front façade original featured a tall cast iron storefront, one-over-one windows on the first story, one-over-one windows with arched transoms on the second story, limestone belt courses, and brick corbelling on the upper section. The building was remodeled by the 1960s, according to historical photographs. By this time, a metal awning extended across the storefront, which is not visible in historical photographs, and paneling of an unknown material with applied decorative geometric designs covered the second and third stories. This appearance remained through at least the 1970s. Today, the front façade features a modern storefront with aluminum and tinted glass entrance doors at the south and north ends, aluminum and tinted glass display windows, and kickplates and end columns covered in stucco. A cloth awning extends across the top of the storefront. A plastic back-lit signs appears above the awning. The second and third stories are clad in vertical metal corrugated siding that lacks openings or decorative elements. On the south secondary façade, the original wooden one-over-one segmental arch windows are still visible on the second and third stories. Despite the remodeling, elements of the original front façade may still be intact. Although destructive visual analysis for this nomination was not conducted, it is possible that

elements of the original façade are still intact behind the metal cladding.

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 7 Page 10 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

Commercial Building – Contributing (114-116 North Jefferson Street) (Second from the right, Photo 20)

This brick building was constructed in the late-nineteenth century as a simple version of the Romanesque Revival style. Historical photographs show that the building had two similar cast iron storefronts and similar windows on the second floor, but was visually divided by different cornices. The elements of the front façade, including one-over-one windows on the second story, rock-faced belt courses, and brick corbelling, blended with the flanking Romanesque Revival buildings. However, the façade was remodeled at an unknown date and now presents a unified (rather than visually divided) appearance. Today, the storefront has kickplates covered with vertical wooden siding, aluminum display windows, and a central aluminum and glass entrance. Original brick columns with decorative concrete bases with a recessed circle detail still stand at either end of the building and between the two halves of the storefront. A standing-seam metal awning appears over the storefront. Wooden dentils extend across the façade above the awning. The second story retains wooden one-over-one segmental arch windows. It is possible that these are the building's original windows, as they mimic the windows visible in historical photographs. At the top of the windows, an original rock-façade belt course extends across the façade. Although the building was originally two stories in height, a third story with a steeply-pitched roof with asphalt shingles and three gable-front metal dormers have been added to give the building a third story. The rhythm of the second floor windows adds to the streetscape of the district.

Hotel Ingram – Contributing (118-122 North Jefferson Street) (Corner building, Photos 20 and 22)

This three-story building is an outstanding example of the Romanesque Revival style. The symmetrical storefront on the west facade was originally divided into three separate parts, which remain very similar to their original configuration. The materials that constitute the storefronts are mostly wood and metal-framed windows from the 1960s and 1970s. Brick pilasters with simple limestone capitals separate the entrances. The original iron lintel is exposed above the storefronts. The transoms above the southern entrance have been covered with wood shingles, and the center storefront transoms remain open. The northern-most storefront has an asphalt shingle awning above it which covers the iron lintel. The central storefront has a metal and glass door, a large plate glass window to the south of the door, and three glass transoms evenly spaced above the storefront. The southern-most storefront has a metal and glass door, a plate-glass window, and wood shingles covering the transoms. The second story is asymmetrical, with a large arched thermal window in the center of the tower-like corner element. Five other original windows are arranged in groups of two and three, respectively, across the rest of the facade. They are one-over-one double-hung wood windows with flat brick arches and smooth limestone sills. A limestone tablet on the second story reads "Hotel Ingram" and is found near the center of the facade above a pair of windows. The window arrangement of the third story is very similar to that of the second story. A large arched thermal window is centered below the corner tower element, and five windows are found on the rest of the facade to the south of the tower element. Each window has a smooth limestone sill. These windows, however, have transoms and brick Romanesque arches above them. The arches spring from brick impost blocks. A brick corbelled pier is found atop the cornice at the south end of the facade. The tower on the northwest corner is supported by two tiers of brick corbel tables, the lower of which runs across the rest of the facade, beneath a pattern of small limestone squares. The tower is topped off with a hipped roof. The first story of the north elevation has eleven large, plate-glass windows unevenly spaced across the facade. The five westernmost windows have been covered with wood paneling. An entrance near the east end of the elevation

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 7 Page 11 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

is similar to the windows in its appearance. Each opening, including the entrance, is topped with a stained glass arched transom. The second story has ten one-over-one double hung wood windows evenly spaced across the elevation, with the exception of the northwest corner window opening that consists of a pair of one-over-one double hung wood windows. The flat brick arch and smooth limestone sill elements of the second story west elevation windows appear with the north elevation windows. The Romanesque arcade of windows on the third story of the west elevation continues across the third story of the north elevation. Ten one-over-one double hung wood windows are found immediately above those of the second story, and the northwest corner window opening consists of two one-over-one double hung wood windows. The brick corbelling from the west facade continues along the entire length of the north facade. At the top of the building, on the western end of the elevation, the roofline mimics that of the tower element on the northwest corner of the building.

Commercial Building - Contributing (217 North Jefferson Street) (Photo 23)

This two-story industrial brick building has most of its original exterior design intact. The building appears to be of reinforced concrete construction, with a brick veneer on the facade. Original windows below street level have been bricked over. The facade design is nearly symmetrical, with six bays on the second story and five matching bays on the first story, except for the southernmost section. It is divided into a small, simple entrance and narrow window bay. The facade design is accented by brick and limestone buttresses between the bays. The parapet design consists of crenellations on the sides culminating in a segmental arch at center.

United States Post Office – Contributing (123 South High Street) (Photo 24)

This government building, constructed in 1934, was designed in the Neoclassical style by the architect Louis A. Simon. It is an outstanding building in the district, as it is not only an excellent example of its kind, but it is the only example of Neoclassical architecture within the district. The one-story brick building with limestone foundation has original six-over-six double-hung wood windows. The facade composition consisted originally of a symmetrical arrangement of features in which a central pavilion of three bays projected from the facade. Four brick pilasters with corbels for capitals divide the bays of the pavilion. The central entrance consists of a rectangular wood enframing supporting a flat projecting cornice and consoles. A fanlight transom topped by stone keystone appears above. On either side of the entrance, arched openings echoing the entry contain fenestration resembling a Palladian window. Outside, flanking the pavilion, are rectangular windows with flat arches and keystones. The asymmetrical southern section may be an addition. The roofline is flat, and a limestone tablet above the entry that reads "Post Office."

World War I Memorial – Contributing (Northeast Corner of Courthouse Lawn) (Photo 28)

This memorial, unveiled on 28 September 1921, commemorates the men from Blackford County who served in the First World War. The base of the monument, which lists the names of 500 men, was made by Piqua Granite Company from Balfaur pink granite. The doughboy statue on top is one of many such sculptures across the country that became popular after World War I. It is made of sanded bronze and was created by sculptor Ernest Moore Visquesney. The doughboy is over 20' tall, weighs four tons, and is entitled "Spirit of

the American Doughboy.” The figure carries a rifle in his left hand, a grenade in his raised right hand, and is advancing through barbed wire.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTIN
UATION SHEET

Section Number 8 Page 12 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

Though within the boundary of the nomination for the Blackford Count Courthouse, the memorial is not mentioned in the nomination in any way. Therefore, it is being counted as a contributing resource as part of this

Courthouse Square District nomination. The other eight non-contributing objects on the courthouse lawn were also not counted or were added since that listing. All are recent in nature or otherwise lack significance.

Statement of Significance

The Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A because of its significance as the historic center of Blackford County's commercial, social, and governmental activity. It is also eligible under Criterion C because of its substantial collection of late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century commercial architecture. Despite alterations to some storefronts, a majority of the architecture's historic integrity has been retained.

Criterion A

A number of events and people influenced the development of the Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic Commercial District. Some of the most significant elements that define the district were implemented in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. They include the initial establishment of Hartford City as the county seat and focus of county government, the Gas Boom and resulting commercial prosperity, and social and retail center of the community. For a brief period in the 1920s, it was also the scene of a number of Ku Klux Klan activities.

According to Robert M. Taylor, Blackford County, home of Hartford City, was formed from a section of Jay County by state lawmakers in 1838. The portion that is now Blackford County is the third smallest county in the state of Indiana. It was named after Isaac Blackford, a speaker of the first state legislature and a member of the State Supreme Court for thirty-five years. Hartford City, the county seat, was originally called "Hartford", but the word "City" was added to distinguish it from a town in southeastern Indiana of the same name. Hartford City was platted in 1839 and incorporated in 1857. In its early years, the city was a small agricultural trading center.¹ A public square built up around the county's first courthouse in the mid- to late-1800s, and most of the buildings were wood frame construction. It would not be long until more permanent commercial structures were built.

The discovery of natural gas in Blackford County in 1887 led to a major period of growth within Hartford City. The natural Gas Boom of east central Indiana was one of the state's most important historical events of the nineteenth century. Even though its exploitation was limited to a single geographical area, the natural resource brought an industrial economic base to an unassuming agricultural region. The Gas Boom was short-lived, but the effect was permanent and left its stamp on the Indiana economic landscape. In 1884, natural gas was discovered in Findlay, Ohio,² just east of the Indiana state line. Attempts to discover more wells began immediately, and before the end of the year a well was struck in Portland, in Jay County, Indiana.

1 Robert M. Taylor, Jr. et al, eds., *Indiana: A New Historical Guide* (Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1989), 73.

2 John Bartlow Martin, *Indiana: An Interpretation* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1947), 75.

The pattern quickly spread across the region, with its western limit being the town of Kokomo. This region, which included

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 8 Page 13 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

Hartford City, was known geologically as the Trenton Gas Field, because of the shelf of Trenton limestone which sat on top of the resource.³ It was touted as the largest single field in the world, and no Indiana town within its sphere was left without a gas well.

Manufacturing industries employing high grades of heat in their processes were especially eager to relocate to the region. Glass, pottery, and metal-based industries were the most common. Consequently, sleepy towns were transformed into bustling cities overnight. In many cases, populations doubled. Significant personal fortunes were made and rippled through the society. The commercial districts of nearly every town, especially the county seats, were literally rebuilt. Before the boom, the county courthouse might have been the one masonry building of any distinction. After the boom, the commercial square was defined by dignified, ornate brick and stone structures.

Despite the prosperity of the Gas Boom, it was short-lived. When first discovered, the supply was touted to be endless. However, not far into the 1890s, the dwindling of the natural pressure had already been detected. Minor attempts at conservation were made, but the resource had been overused and wasted. By the first few years of the twentieth century, the Gas Boom was finished. More substantial industries converted to alternative fuels, as relocation would be costly. Larger cities managed to hold on to these industries due to their infrastructures; namely railroad junctions. The smaller towns suffered the most, leaving behind some of the built environment as the only clue to their booming years.

The growth, expansion, and attractive industrial base during the Gas Boom were characteristic of many small towns at the time in the region, and the proposed district of Hartford City is significant because its growth and development were typical of Gas Boom cities. Numbers of skilled Belgian glassworkers flocked to Hartford City and formed a community around the glass factories built by the boom, especially the Hartford City Window Glass Company.⁴ Other Gas Boom-era industries in Hartford City included the Sneath Glass Company, the Hartford City Paper Company, the Utility Paper Company, Congress Cycle Company, and the Willman Lumber Company.⁵ The 1890 Hartford City census population was recorded as 2,287. Within ten years, the population had increased to nearly 6,000.⁶ The days of the Gas Boom in Hartford City were days of unbelievable waste, swift expansion, and fortunes being made and lost.

The concept of something such as a courthouse square gave shape to centers of hundreds of county seats. Because of its simple concept and easy layout, Hartford City's public square is considered a Block Square, or Shelbyville Square, a common design throughout the Midwest. The courthouse itself served as the nucleus of a county, and the county seat became the trade center of a county. A courthouse square provided more room for socializing and a more attractive setting than a downtown with only businesses and traffic. Through the years, the elements of a courthouse square evolved. According to an essay on courthouse squares from the book, *Common Places: Readings in American Vernacular Architecture*, original plats did not call for landscaping, and commercial buildings constructed of wood were small and separate from one another.

3 James A. Glass, "The Gas Boom in East Central Indiana," *Indiana Magazine of History*, December 2000, 314-315.

4 Taylor, Jr. , 73.

5 Edgar Henderson, *A History of Blackford County, Indiana* (Hartford City, Ind.: Blackford County Historical Society, 1986),

6 *Ibid.*, 10.

Eventually, trees were introduced and planted in somewhat of a park-like setting. Monuments commemorating

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 8 Page 14 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

various wars began to appear, and commercial buildings gradually crowded together and presented a composite facade. They were constructed of more substantial materials, such as brick and stone, and became more decorative.⁷ Hartford City's courthouse square is significant because its evolution closely followed this common pattern of development. Due to the prosperity of the Gas Boom, many substantial commercial buildings of brick and stone masonry replaced wooden structures during the 1890s in the courthouse square and adjacent streets. Over time, a number of monuments honoring war veterans and commemorative objects were erected on the lawn of the courthouse.

Courthouses also evolved, from the earliest simple log structures first built on the square to rectangular brick buildings with wooden cupolas. They eventually became massive Baroque or Victorian-era buildings designed by a professional architect.⁸ Hartford City's first substantial courthouse was a forty foot by forty foot brick structure, located on the grounds of the current courthouse that was built in 1846 at a cost of \$5,600.⁹ The building was deemed unsatisfactory after a number of years, and the Marion architects LaBelle and French were commissioned to design a new courthouse.¹⁰ Plans were submitted on 8 June 1893 for a seventy-one foot by one hundred twenty-six foot Romanesque Revival structure that would cost the county \$129,000.¹¹ The courthouse had been modeled after Henry H. Richardson's Albany, New York, city hall, and the Allegheny County courthouse.¹² With the construction of the impressive building, Hartford City was able to publicly display its Gas Boom prosperity, and most likely attracted more businesses to the courthouse square.

Railroads, and then eventually interurbans and highways, brought people and goods into Hartford City and the downtown area. In 1854, a group of Hartford City citizens gathered and organized a railroad that would connect Grand Rapids and Louisville, becoming the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad. Eventually, this became the Pennsylvania Railroad.¹³ The Pennsylvania Railroad passenger trains made four stops a day in Hartford City, the Lake Erie and Western passenger trains made three.¹⁴ Freight trains also traveled through the town, as "Hartford City is on the main division of the Pennsylvania Railroad providing shipping outlets both to eastern points through Columbus, Ohio to New York, and to western areas through Chicago."¹⁵

The Hartford City town council first passed an ordinance for electric street car railways in January of 1893. The ordinance stated that "no side track or turntable shall be put in around the Courthouse Square without further consent."¹⁶ The Hartford City Electric Street Rail Road Company had its offices on west side of the courthouse

7 Dell Upton and John Michael Veach, *Common Places: Readings in American Vernacular Architecture* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1986), 139.

8 *Ibid*, 140.

9 Henderson, 13.

10 Taylor, Jr., 74.

11 Henderson, 10.

12 Taylor, Jr., 73.

13 "The Old GR and I Even Stopped for Fishing," *Grand Rapids (Mich.) Herald*, 8 August 1954, available in the following scrapbook of clippings compiled by Cecil Beeson: *More Odds and Ends of Blackford County History:: Book 7*, files of the Blackford County Historical Society, Hartford City, Indiana.

14 Henderson, 18.

15 *The Mullin-Kille Hartford City, Indiana Con Survey City Directory 2* (Chillicothe, Ohio: Mullin Kille, 1953), 5.

16 "New for the Railway," *Hartford City (Ind.) News-Times*, 26 January 1893. This newspaper article is available in book 2

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 8 Page 15 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

square by 1895.¹⁷ The Ft. Wayne-Muncie-Hartford City interurban line, part of the Union Traction Company, began to be constructed in the spring of 1901.¹⁸ Historic sources, speaking about the line that connected the city with surrounding towns, described it as being of “untold value to our enterprising city.”¹⁹ The owners of the Ingram Hotel at the southeast corner of Main and Jefferson Streets must have agreed, since the interurban tracks passed right by the hotel, any many of the guests are reported to have arrived by the electric cars.²⁰ An interurban station was erected at the southeast corner of Water and Jefferson Streets, just a short walk from the courthouse square, in 1908.²¹ At the height of their popularity, interurban cars ran from 5 AM until 11 PM every day in Hartford City.²² The city’s last interurban car ran in January of 1941.²³

Roads and highways also brought people into the downtown area and helped to focus business and social exchanges on the courthouse square. County records indicate that townspeople were interested in building roads that connected their businesses with outlying areas as early as 1840.²⁴ The highways that meet near the downtown that were eventually designated as state routes 3, 22 and 26 were constructed by 1925.²⁵ The convergence of three highways near the courthouse square may be the reason for the cluster of automobile-related resources in the area. Historically, stores specializing in auto sales, supplies and accessories have been scattered throughout the district including the Western Auto store (111 W. Washington),²⁶ an auto and tire store at 208 W. Main,²⁷ auto sales in the Dowell Block at 107 W. Washington,²⁸ a filling station and auto painting business at 125 W. Washington²⁹ and a used auto sales formerly located at 115 W. Washington.³⁰

of *More Odds and Ends of Blackford City History*.

17 *Hartford City, Montpelier and Blackford County, Indiana directory, 1895, and gazetteer of land owners* (Anderson, Ind.: Columbia Directories, 1895), 98.

18 “A New Impetus,” *Hartford City (Ind.) News-Times*, 5 December 1900. This newspaper article is available in book 3 of *More Odds and Ends of Blackford City History*.

19 George R. Dale, *Directory of Hartford City, Ind., & Complete Gazetteer of Blackford County Land Owners* (Location unknown: George R. Dale, 1904), introduction. Hereafter cited as 1904 City Directory.

20 From a brief history of the Ingram Hotel in typewritten notes on the history of prominent Hartford City buildings, available in the “Buildings” file of the files of the Blackford County Historical Society, Hartford City, Indiana. Hereafter cited as “typewritten notes.”

21 From a brief history of the interurban station, typewritten notes.

22 Henderson, 18.

23 “Last orange-hued interurban car . . .” *Hartford City (Ind.) News-Times*, 14 January 1941. This newspaper article is available in book 3 of *More Odds and Ends of Blackford City History*.

24 See the 1840 petitions for roads in “Blackford County Commissioners Book 1” available in *Blackford County Indiana Miscellaneous Records* (Fort Wayne, Ind.: Fort Wayne Public Library, 1974).

25 “Rand McNally Official 1925 Auto Trails Map of Indiana,” Chicago: Rand McNally and Co., 1925.

26 From a brief history of 111 W. Washington, typewritten notes.

27 Sanborn-Perris Map Co., Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Hartford City, Indiana, February 1920. Section 8. Copy available at Minnetrista Cultural Center, Muncie, Indiana.

28 Ibid.

29 Sanborn-Perris Map Co., Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Hartford City, Indiana, June 1931. Section 2. Copy available at Minnetrista Cultural Center, Muncie, Indiana.

30 Sanborn-Perris Map Co., Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Hartford City, Indiana, March 1946. Section 2. Copy available at Minnetrista Cultural Center, Muncie, Indiana.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 8 Page 16 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

The public square is significant because it offered the citizens of Hartford City and Blackford County the opportunity to fraternize, make purchases, seek entertainment, and handle governmental business. The courthouse square served as the main gathering place for the citizens of Hartford City and Blackford County. For example, in the mid-nineteenth century, Joseph VanCleve built a two-story brick store on the northwest corner of Washington and High Streets. Because VanCleve was an adamant Union support during the Civil War, he became known as "The General," while his store was given the name "The Fort." His store became an informal headquarters for the county's other Union supporters.³¹

The square's significance is also illustrated by the number of businesses that have historically been located in the area. For example, a number of grocers and dry goods merchants were scattered throughout the district. The Pursley and Culbertson store was located on the west side of the square, Ayres was on the northwest corner of the square and Kroger was on the south side of the square.³² The courthouse square was home to several drug stores. The T.J. Cronin and O. Anderson store was located on the west side of the square in 1895, while Bradbury and Emmerson Drugs operated on the south side and T.P. Van Winkle had a store on the east side of the square in the same year. Shinn and Sowers Drug Store at 120 W. Main flourished throughout the 1920s. Gough's Drug Store at the northwest corner of Main and High Streets was a favorite gathering spot in the 1930s and 1940s.³³ The downtown area has also been the home to a number of department and furniture stores, including Weiler Brothers Department Store and later Montgomery Ward in the Weiler Building,³⁴ Hoover-Needle Furniture at 119 W. Washington³⁵, Campbell and Ervin Clothing in the Ervin Building³⁶, the Progress Clothing Company at 101 W. Washington,³⁷ and the Risinger Store (now the Attic Window) at 112 W. Main.³⁸

The courthouse square was historically the location of the city's major banking institutions. Joseph VanCleve is regarded as the county's first banker, as he supposedly kept people's money in the safe in his store.³⁹ The three major banks in the city were originally all located on the square at 117 N. High (Blackford Co. Bank), 102 N. Jefferson (Citizens State Bank) and 118 W. Main (First National Bank).⁴⁰

Several hotels were constructed on the courthouse square during the Gas Boom, signifying visitors' desire to stay in the downtown area. A few hotels remained open well after the boom ceased. Hotels in the downtown

31 Henderson, 46.

32 Henderson, 59.

33 Henderson, 56-57.

34 "Dale Harkins Class Study Notes," available in the "Buildings" file of the files of the Blackford County Historical Society, Hartford City, Indiana. Hereafter cited as "Dale Harkins Class Study Notes."

35 Henderson, 81.

36 George R. Dale, *Directory of Hartford City, Ind., & Complete Gazetteer of Blackford County Land Owners* (Hartford City, Ind.: George R. Dale, 1902), 110. Hereafter cited as 1902-1903 City Directory.

37 *Ibid.*

38 *City Directory of Hartford City, Indiana* (Quincy, Ill.: The Hoffman Directories, 1925).

39 Henderson, 46.

40 1904 City Directory, 188.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 8 Page 17 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

area include the City Hotel (1876-1920) at the northeast corner of W. Washington and Highway 3, the Ingram Hotel that was later known as the Hartford Hotel (1895-1976) at 112 N. Jefferson, the City Hotel (1876-1920) at 225 W. Washington and the New Hartford Hotel (1899-1907) at 227 W. Washington.⁴¹

Saloons and billiards halls were also scattered throughout the district, further suggesting that the courthouse square was a gathering place for local residents. These establishments included a pool hall that was formerly located in the west end of the Dowell Building (111 W. Washington),⁴² a billiard hall in the Smith Block (213-215 W. Washington),⁴³ and a tavern in the Rosenbush Building.⁴⁴

The public was also drawn to the square because of the location of several government buildings. In addition to the county courthouse, the Blackford County Jail, located on Main Street, and the United States Post Office, located on High Street, served the needs of the citizens of Blackford County. The building at 212 W. Washington even served as the Post Office before the South High Street post office was constructed⁴⁵ and the Ervin Building housed the county offices while the courthouse was being built.⁴⁶ With the exception of the Blackford County Jail that no longer serves its original purpose, the courthouse square retains a strong government presence.

Many of Hartford City's theaters were located in the courthouse square area. For example, the VanCleve Opera House was on the northwest corner of High and Washington Streets across from the courthouse. It was located on the site of Joseph VanCleve's store, which burned in 1880 but rebuilt by his son two years later.⁴⁷ The Opera House, which featured traveling stock company productions, had "a great variety of comedy, drama and musical productions that pleased local audiences for many years"⁴⁸ and "saw every road show on record from Uncle Tom's Cabin to Lena Rivers."⁴⁹ The railroads brought visitors on excursions to the theater to fill its 450 seats.⁵⁰ Movie theaters began to appear in the town at the turn of the century. The Vaudelle, located on the west side of High Street between Washington and Water Streets, was among the first in the county. Shortly after the Vaudelle opened, the Palace Theatre began operation on the east side of the square near the Hartford Hotel at 112 N. Jefferson.⁵¹ The Rosenbush also housed the Royal Theater for a number of years until the theater closed and was transformed into a tavern.⁵²

Historically, the courthouse square has been the meeting place for several fraternal organizations. The Elks

41 Henderson, 48.

42 "Dale Harkins Class Study Notes."

43 Ibid.

44 From a brief history of the Rosenbush Building, typewritten notes.

45 1920 Sanborn.

46 From a brief history of the Ervin Building, typewritten notes.

47 Henderson, 46.

48 Henderson, 57.

49 Howard Parkinson, "Weekend Reflection," *Hartford City (Ind.) News-Times*, 29 March 1975, available in the files of the Blackford County Historical Society, Hartford City, Indiana. This article discusses a historical photograph that was taken in 1911.

50 Henderson, 46.

51 Henderson, 57.

52 From a brief history of the Rosenbush Building, typewritten notes.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 8 Page 18 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

Lodge was formerly located at the southeast corner of Jefferson and Washington Streets (now a vacant lot).⁵³ The Knights of Pythias once met in the upper story of 107 W. Washington.⁵⁴ Later, in c.1900, they built the Knights of Pythias Building, or Tyner Building, at 204-210 W. Main Street and met every Thursday.⁵⁵ The so-called Corner Building at the northwest corner of Main and High Streets was built in 1883 as the Masonic Hall, along the façade was later remodeled and the building became a drugstore.⁵⁶ The Masons later met in the building at 212-214 W. Washington.⁵⁷ The Independent Order of Odd Fellows Hall was once located in the east side of the upper story of the VanCleve Building at the northwest corner of Washington and High Streets.⁵⁸ The I.O.O.F. also met at 218-222 W. Washington.⁵⁹

Likewise, churches have historically met around or near the courthouse square. The First Presbyterian Church on N. High Street is already listed on the National Register of Historic Places. An Episcopal Church once met in the VanCleve Opera House.⁶⁰

Special events that drew visitors to the courthouse square included parades, special speakers and religious events. One such special event was the laying of the cornerstone for the new courthouse on 2 November 1893. Invitations were sent out, including a general invitation for farmers and businessmen to parade around the building. Courthouse square businesses were decorated with large banners to commemorate the event.⁶¹ Another major draw for the community is the annual dedication of the municipal Christmas tree, an event that began in 1914 that featured a choir, band and a large crowd on the public square.⁶² The J.V. Dick Building at 112 N. Jefferson once contained a roller skating rink, which reportedly drew many young people into the downtown area.⁶³

The Ku Klux Klan was organized in the middle 1910s in the southern part of the United States. It described itself as a guardian of public morality. The group viewed Jews, Catholics, African-Americans and foreigners as their enemies. Indiana's first klavern was formed in 1920 when Kentucky KKK members arrived in Evansville. Eventually, the group controlled many elected office-holders in the state, and Grand Dragon D.C. Stephenson became one of the most powerful men in the state. The KKK first appeared in the area surrounding Hartford City on 4 April 1922 when they visited Sunday services at an Eaton Methodist Church⁶⁴, which was located in the small community of Eaton, approximately nine miles south of Hartford City. The robed members made a contribution and marched out. They organized in Hartford City later that year when eighteen cars carrying

53 Henderson, 83.

54 Sanborn-Perris Map Co., Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Hartford City, Indiana, February 1886. Sections 1, 2. Copy available at Minnetrista Cultural Center, Muncie, Indiana.

55 Directory of Hartford City & Montpelier and Blackford County Gazetteer. Anderson, Ind.: The Union Directory Co., 1911.

56 From a brief history of the Corner Building, typewritten notes; 1886 Sanborn maps.

57 1920 Sanborn maps.

58 1909 Sanborn maps.

59 Ibid.

60 1920 Sanborn maps.

61 Henderson, 11.

62 "Christmas spirit is reflected," *Hartford City (Ind.) News-Times*, 26 December 1914. This newspaper article is available in book 3 of *More Odds and Ends of Blackford City History*.

63 From a brief history of the J.V. Dick Building, typewritten notes.

64 *Ibid.*, 36.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 8 Page 19 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

eighty-five hooded Klan members appeared on the public square during a band concert. They asked the director to play “America” and handed out three envelopes. One envelope was for the band and one was for each of the local papers stating that “the Klan will rout all evil forces in Blackford County and that back of the Hartford Klan stands the invisible empire of the world.”⁶⁵ The KKK held their meetings on the third floor of the Tyner/Knights of Pythias Building on Main Street,⁶⁶ which still stands today. During the early and mid-1920s, it seemed as if the only way to hold political office in the county was to be Republican and a member of the Klan. The women’s auxiliary was chartered in 1924 and had at least 500 members.⁶⁷ On 20 June 1923, the KKK held their state meeting in Hartford City, and over 2,000 Klan members in full regalia paraded around the courthouse square.⁶⁸ After a few years, the organization of the KKK began to crumble. On the state level, a major blow was the murder conviction of D.C. Stephenson in 1925. In Hartford City, concerned citizens were taking matters into their own hands. According to articles in the Blackford County Historical Society, a local group hired a professional safecracker to break into the KKK’s safe in their third floor Tyner Building meeting room. The membership rolls kept in the safe were copied and distributed throughout the city. Two banks kept the list on file, making it difficult for many former members to continue their financial transactions at these lending institutions.⁶⁹

Criterion C

The Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic Commercial District is significant because the buildings that comprise the proposed district are the largest and finest collection of commercial buildings in Hartford City and Blackford County. Of the twenty-three contributing buildings in the district, seven are listed as “outstanding” examples of their respective architectural styles in the *Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory: Blackford County Interim Report*. These buildings are the Blackford County Jail, Blackford County Courthouse, Campbell Building, Ervin Building, Kirshbaum Building, United States Post Office, and First Presbyterian Church. Five buildings in the district are listed as “notable” examples of their respective architectural styles and historic integrity. These buildings include the Knights of Pythias Building, Rosenbush Building, Scheidler Theater, Hotel Ingram, and a commercial building at 210 East Washington Street.⁷⁰

Several styles of architecture figure prominently into the district, increasing the richness and appearance of the area. These styles include Commercial Italianate, Renaissance Revival, Romanesque Revival, Queen Anne, Neoclassical, and Art Deco. The origination of the styles is quite diverse and widespread. Their elements are rich and vary a great deal, yet together they present a cohesive district that defines the character of Hartford City.

The Italianate style originated in England in the 1800s as part of the Picturesque movement, because it was

65 Henderson, 36.

66 *Ibid.*

67 See p. 234 of Book 4 of *More Odds and Ends of Blackford County History*.

68 Henderson, 10.

69 See p. 101 of Book 15 of *More Odds and Ends of Blackford County History*.

70 *Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory: Blackford County Interim Report* (Indianapolis: Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, 2005), 60-63.

inspired by rural Italian villas. The ornate style spread to the United States and was common in the late 1800s,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 8 Page 20 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

especially in growing towns and cities of the Midwest,⁷¹ such as Hartford City. Elements that defined the style included decorative eave brackets, tall narrow windows with arched or curved tops, elaborate cornices, quoins,⁷² columns, pilasters, belt courses, projecting cornices, ornate window surrounds, and balanced facades. The buildings typically utilized a variety of materials and displayed richness in texture. Commercial buildings often had cast-iron storefronts. The southern portion of the Bank Block is an excellent example of commercial Italianate, because the second story of its symmetrical facade is comprised of tall, narrow windows with rounded hoods and decorative inlays above. The cornice projects away from the building and adds depth to the top of the facade. Renaissance Revival, with its European roots, can best be described as austere. This style was often more economical to build than more complex picturesque forms. These buildings were rich in texture, and elements include formal window crownings, cornice moldings that were less ornamental than Italianate structures, masonry construction, quoins, rustication, and horizontal belt courses.⁷³ The Rosenbush Building is an example of Renaissance Revival. Limestone and multi-colored brick comprise the facade, along with terra cotta details near the top of the building. Horizontal limestone belt courses cross the facade. Another example of Renaissance Revival is the Campbell Building. Style-defining features of the masonry building include brick pilasters separating each storefront, decorative cast-iron elements, a horizontal limestone belt above third-story windows, and limestone pilasters on the upper facades.

With its robust masonry and rich texture, Romanesque Revival is an easily distinguishable style. It was derived from the medieval Romanesque architecture of Spain and France. The style was developed in the United States by Henry H. Richardson in the 1870s and is sometimes referred to as Richardsonian Romanesque. Elements include heavy rough-cut stone, masonry of varying colors and textures, round arches, deeply recessed windows, densely carved decorations with interlaced motifs, belt courses, towers, floral motifs, colonnettes, stone transoms, and cushion capitals.⁷⁴ An excellent example of this style in the district is the Blackford County Courthouse. The weighty appearance of the building, with its towers, can be attributed to the massive blocks of rough-cut ashlar used in its construction. Rounded arches are found above the entrances, third story windows, and clock tower. Another example of the style is the Rosenbush Building. A majority of the building's openings are arched, and the rough-cut limestone in varying patterns and horizontal belt courses alternates with brick on the facade.

Queen Anne is a style typically associated with residential buildings in the United States, but it was also applied to commercial buildings. The 1876 Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia generated considerable interest in the style, and it was widely influential in the United States from the 1870s until the turn of the century. Elements include asymmetrical plans, bay windows, projecting oriels, brackets, and a rich variety of textures including cut and molded brick, terra cotta, and ornamental plaster.⁷⁵ The Ervin Building is an example of the Queen Anne style. Its most notable features are the three angled bay windows on the building's facade. The brick building has a variety of materials including limestone belt courses, prism glass

⁷¹ Mark Gelernter, *A History of American Architecture: Buildings in their Cultural and Technological Context* (Hanover, New Hampshire: University of New England Press, 1999), 161.

⁷² Rachel Carley, *The Visual Dictionary of American Domestic Architecture* (New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1994), 143-145.

⁷³ Gelernter, 157-158.

⁷⁴ Carley, 166.

⁷⁵ *Ibid.*, 154-155.

transoms, and cast-iron bays. The Knights of Pythias Building also exhibits elements of the Queen Anne style with its cast-iron bays and

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 8 Page 21 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

somewhat asymmetrical elevation. The Neoclassical style was popularized at the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. A number of classically inspired buildings were on display, and many architects felt inspired by their appearance. In the following decades, the style was applied to grand public and commercial buildings across the United States. Elements defining the style include symmetrically balanced facades, pilasters, Ionic or Corinthian capitals, keystones, wide frieze bands, classical pediments, fanlights, dentils, and modillions. The United States Post Office on High Street is an example of Neoclassical architecture. The one-story brick building has a symmetrically balanced facade of an entrance with a window on either side. Limestone keystones are found above the arched windows in the brickwork, brick pilasters separate the spaces on the facade occupied by the windows and door, and a fanlight adorns the upper portion of the entrance.

The term Art Deco was derived from the title of a 1925 Paris design fair, the *Exposition Internationale des Arts Decoratifs et Industriels Modernes*. It began to appear in Europe before World War I and became popular in the United States in the 1930s. Large cities such as New York, Los Angeles, and Miami were eager to apply the style to apartment buildings and skyscrapers. The style blended Modernism, history, and fantasy.⁷⁶ It served as a way for architects to capture the energy and sensuality of the Jazz Age. With its visually dynamic shapes, Art Deco emphasized glitz, glamour, and a theatrical atmosphere. It only seems appropriate that the Scheidler Theater serves as an example of the Art Deco style. The building is constructed of polished marble and limestone. A pattern of alternating depths to the marble on the east and west ends gives the building a sense of height, because they appear as vertical lines when looking at the facade straight-on.

⁷⁶ *Ibid*, 228.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 9 Page 22 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 9 Page 23 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number 10 Page 24 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the southwest corner of the intersection of North Jefferson and East Franklin Streets, the boundary proceeds one block west along the south side of Franklin Street to the southeast corner of the intersection of West Franklin and North High Streets. Here, the boundary turns south, proceeding along the east side of High Street until it reaches the property line of 214 North High Street. The boundary turns west, proceeds across North High Street, and continues along the property line of 213-215 North High Street. The boundary then continues south along the north-south alley, to the south side of the east-west alley and continues west to the property line of 218 West Main Street. At this point, the boundary turns south and continues along the property line until reaching West Main Street. The boundary turns east and continues to the west property line of 210 West Main Street. At this point, crosses West Main Street, continues along the east side of the alley, and crosses West Washington Street to meet to the west property line of 211 West Washington Street. At this point, the boundary turns west and continues along the south side of West Washington Street until it meets the west property line of 219 West Washington Street. At this point, it turns south to meet the east-west alley, continues along the north side of the alley, meets the north-south alley, turns south, continues along the east side of the north-south alley, and meets Water Street. At this point, the boundary turns east, continues along the north side of Water Street, crosses South High Street, and continues until it meets the alley east of South High Street, where it turns north. The boundary proceeds north along the west side of the alley until it intersects the alley south of West Washington Street. At the northwest corner of this intersection, the boundary turns east and proceeds down the north side of the alley until it reaches the east side the building at 200 East Washington Street. The boundary turns north, crosses East Washington Street, and continues along the north-south alley east of North Monroe Street until it meets the east-west alley north of East Washington Street. At this point, it turns west and continues along the south side of the alley, crosses Monroe Street, and meets the northwest corner of Monroe Street and the alley north of East Washington Street. At this point, it turns north, continues along the west side of Monroe Street until it reaches the southwest corner of the intersection of Monroe and Main Streets. The boundary makes a 90-degree turn to the west and proceeds to the southwest corner of the intersection of Main and Jefferson Streets. Here, the boundary turns north and proceeds along the west side of Jefferson Street until it reaches the southwest corner of the intersection of Jefferson and Franklin Streets. This is the point of origin for the boundary and thus encloses the perimeter of the Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District.

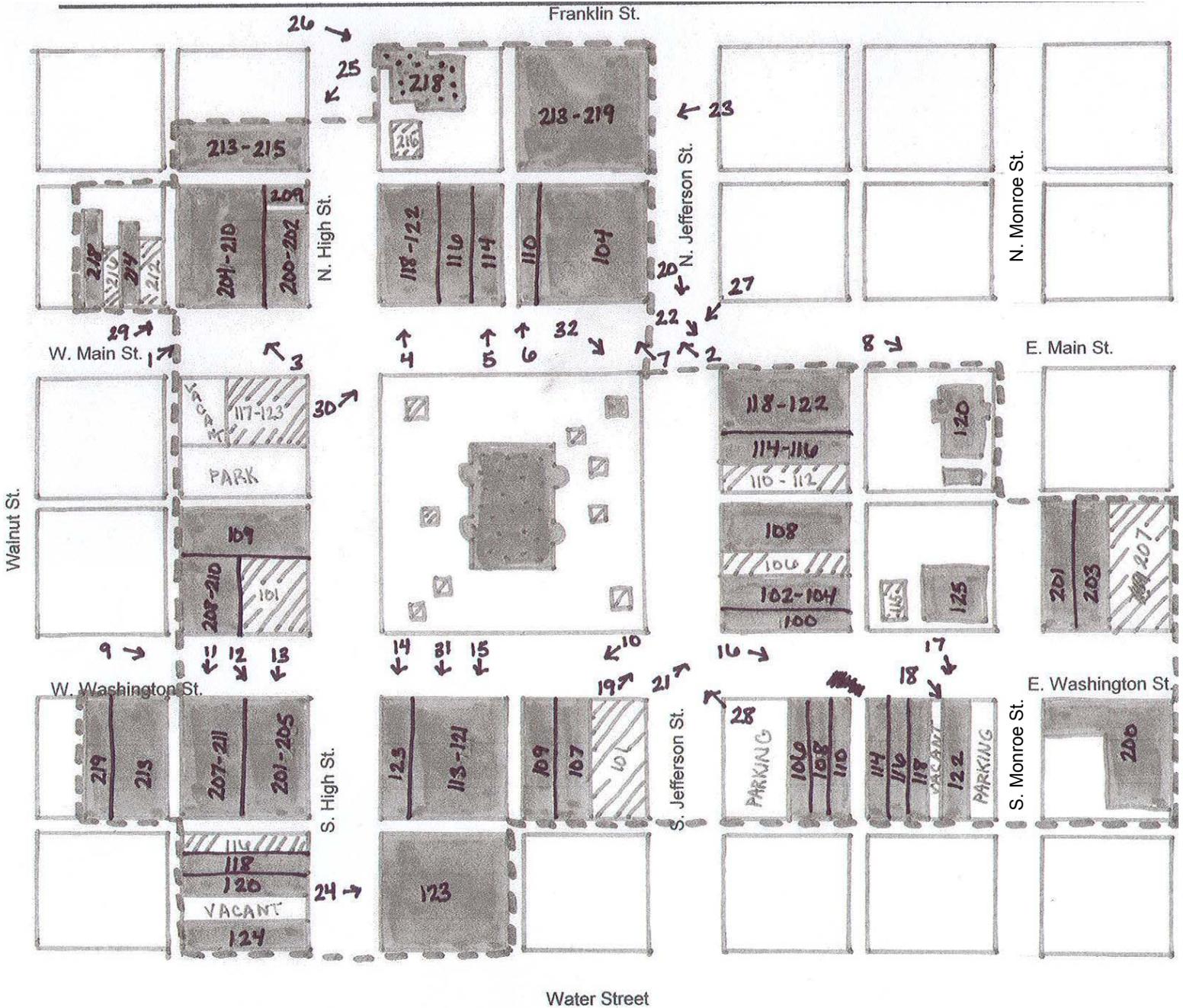
Boundary Justification

The district comprises the portion of the historic commercial, governmental, and social center of Hartford City that retains its integrity. Areas immediately surrounding the district include non-contributing buildings and vacant lots. Housing, some historic, but unrelated to the commerce theme of the nomination, surrounds this buffer area.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number Map Page 25 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.



↑
4
Photo Number
- - - District Boundary

■ Contributing Building or Object
▨ Non-Contributing Building or Object
▤ Previously listed on National Register



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number Photos Page 26 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford
County, Ind.

The following information is the same for photographs 1 – 28:

1. Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic Commercial District
2. Hartford City, Blackford County, Indiana
3. Kristi Hamilton
4. 15 March 2005
5. Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (DHPA), 402 West Washington Street, Room W-274,
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Other information for individual photographs:

Photo 1

1. Main Street Facades
6. Camera facing northeast
7. 1 of 32

Photo 2

1. Main Street Facades
6. Camera facing northwest
7. 2 of 32

Photo 3

1. Knights of Pythias Building
6. Camera facing northwest
7. 3 of 32

Photo 4

1. W.H. Gable Block
6. Camera facing north
7. 4 of 32

Photo 5

1. Commercial Building (114 West Main)
6. Camera facing north
7. 5 of 32

Photo 6

1. Rosenbush Building
6. Camera facing north
7. 6 of 32

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number Photos Page 27 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford
County, Ind.

Photo 7

1. Weiler's Building
6. Camera facing northwest
7. 7 of 32

Photo 8

1. Blackford County Jail
6. Camera facing southeast
7. 8 of 32

Photo 9

1. Washington Street Facades
6. Camera facing southeast
7. 9 of 32

Photo 10

1. Washington Street Facades
6. Camera facing southwest
7. 10 of 32

Photo 11

1. Campbell Building
6. Camera facing south
7. 11 of 32

Photo 12

1. Ervin Building
6. Camera facing southeast
7. 12 of 32

Photo 13

1. Transom detail of Ervin Building
6. Camera facing south
7. 13 of 32

Photo 14

1. Kirshbaum Building
6. Camera facing south
7. 14 of 32

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number Photos Page 28 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

Photo 15

1. Briscoe Building
6. Camera facing south
7. 15 of 32

Photo 16

1. Griffin Building
6. Camera facing southeast
7. 16 of 32

Photo 17

1. Scheidler Theater
6. Camera facing south
7. 17 of 32

Photo 18

1. Cornerstone of Scheidler Theater
6. Camera facing east
7. 18 of 32

Photo 19

1. Jefferson Street Facades
6. Camera facing northeast
7. 19 of 32

Photo 20

1. Jefferson Street Facades
6. Camera facing southeast
7. 20 of 32

Photo 21

1. Bank Block
6. Camera facing northeast
7. 21 of 32

Photo 22

1. Hotel Ingram
6. Camera facing southeast
7. 22 of 32

Photo 23

1. Commercial Building (217 North Jefferson)
6. Camera facing west

7. 23 of 32

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number Photos Page 29 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

Photo 24

1. United States Post Office
6. Camera facing northeast
7. 24 of 32

Photo 25

1. High Street Facades
6. Camera facing northeast
7. 25 of 32

Photo 26

1. First Presbyterian Church
6. Camera facing southeast
7. 26 of 32

Photo 27

1. World War I Memorial
6. Camera facing southwest
7. 27 of 32

Photo 28

1. Blackford County Courthouse
6. Camera facing northwest
7. 28 of 32

Photo 29

1. Historical Photograph of Main Street – From left to right: Knights of Pythias Building, Commercial Building (200 West Main), W.H. Gable Block, Spade Building, Commercial Building (114 West Main), Weiler's Building
2. Blackford County, Indiana
3. Unknown
4. 1920, possibly
5. Blackford County Historical Society, Hartford City, Indiana
6. Camera facing northeast
7. 29 of 32

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Number Photos Page 30 Hartford City Courthouse Square Historic District, Blackford County, Ind.

Photo 30

1. Historical Photograph of Main Street – From left to right: W.H. Gable Block, Spade Building, Commercial Building (114 West Main), Rosenbush Building, Weiler's Building
2. Blackford County, Indiana
3. Unknown
4. 1910, possibly
5. Blackford County Historical Society, Hartford City, Indiana
6. Camera facing northeast
7. 30 of 32

Photo 31

1. Historical Photograph – Briscoe Block (left), Kirshbaum Building (right)
2. Blackford County, Indiana
3. Unknown
4. 1900, possibly
5. Blackford County Historical Society, Hartford City, Indiana
6. Camera facing south
7. 31 of 32

Photo 32

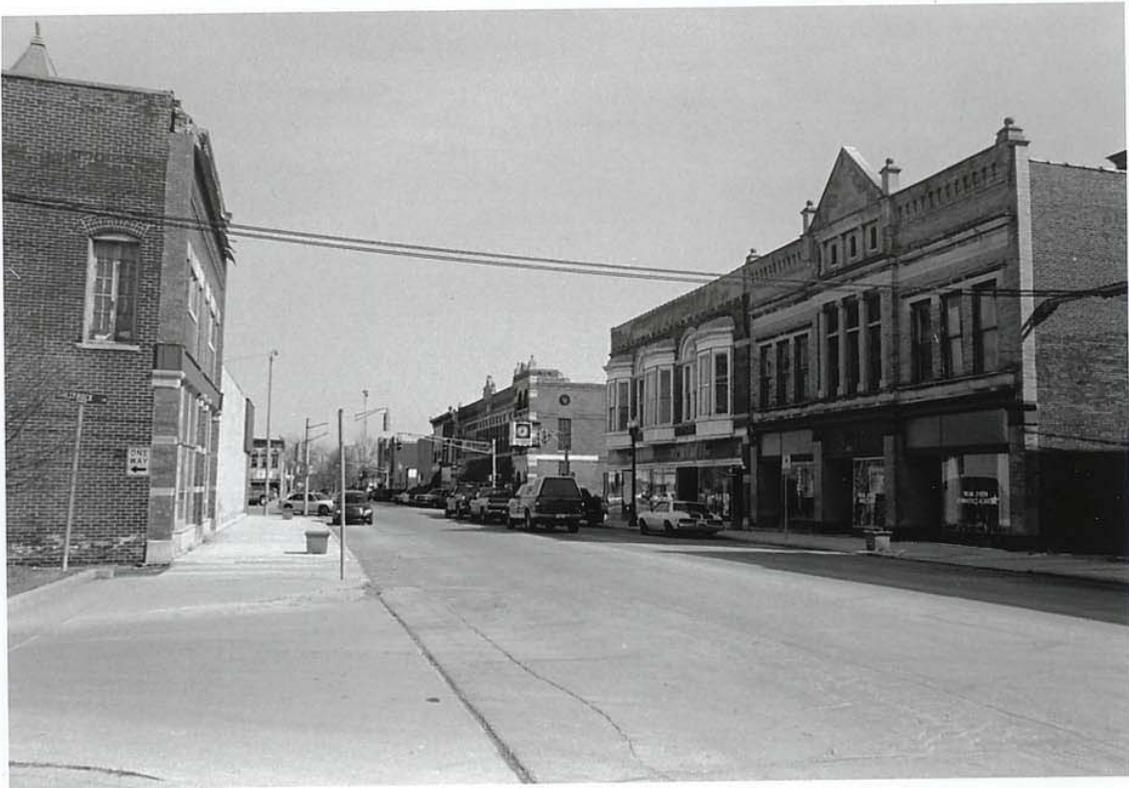
1. Historical Photograph of Jefferson Street – From left to right: Hotel Ingram, Commercial Building (116 North Jefferson), Dick Block, Commercial Building (108 North Jefferson), Bank Block
2. Blackford County, Indiana
3. Unknown
4. 1900, possibly
5. Blackford County Historical Society, Hartford City, Indiana
6. Camera facing east
7. 32 of 32



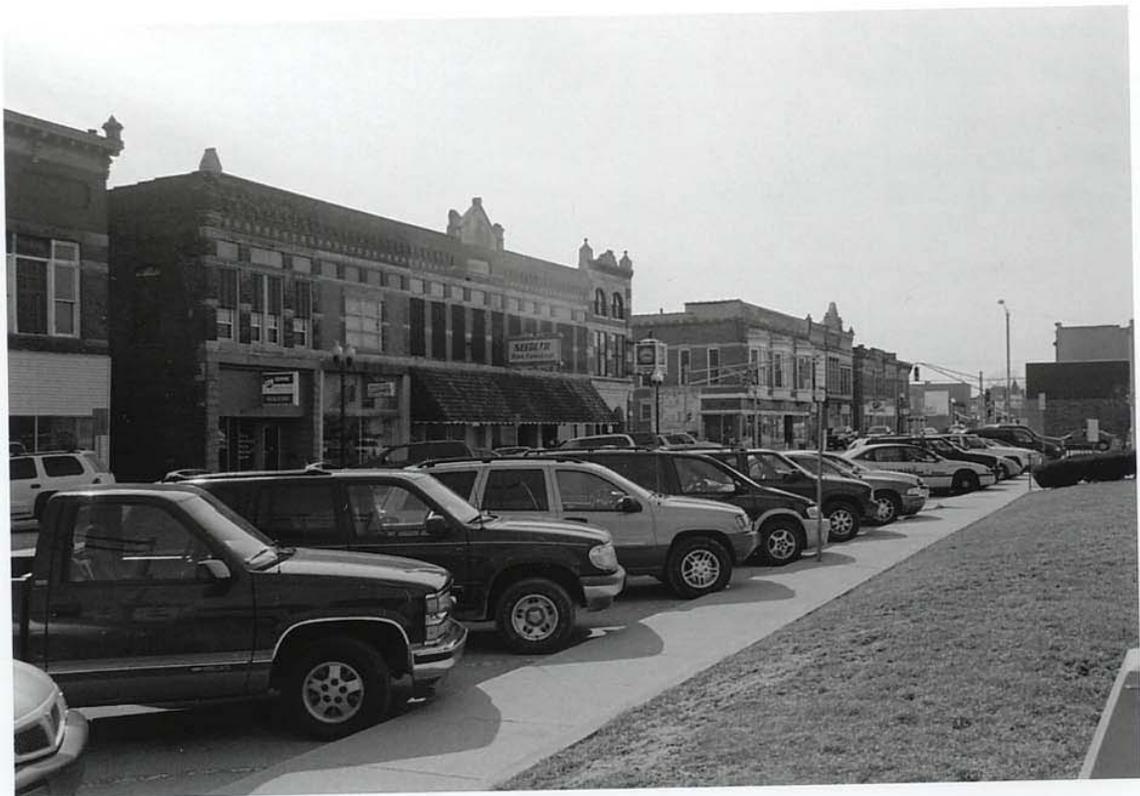
1



2



9



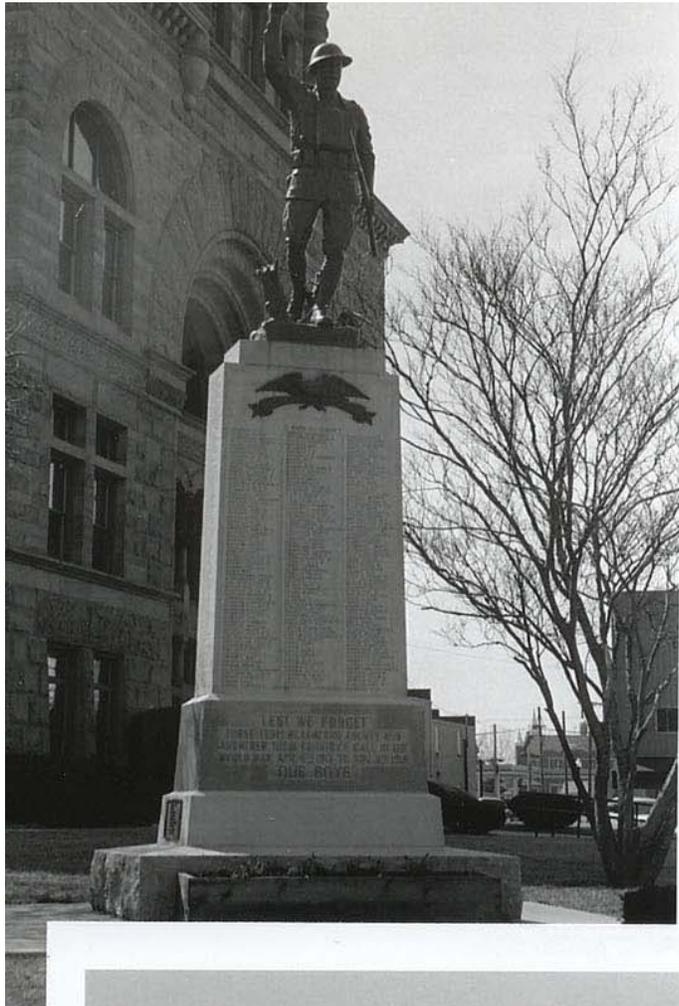
60



17



19



27

22
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